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NPIC/CSD 42/66
21 JANUARY 1966
PAGES 2
PAGE 1 OF 2
COPY 2

25X1

RIVER CROSSINGS, ROUTE 9
SEPONE AREA, LAOS
1641N 10613E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD REVEALS NEW CONSTRUCTION OF BY-PASS ROADS
AND RIVER CROSSINGS ON ROUTE 9.

2. REMARKS:

ROUTE 9 IS AN IMPORTANT SEGMENT OF THE LAOTIAN ROAD NET THAT
IS BEING USED BY NORTH VIETNAM TO TRANSSHIP PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES
TO SOUTH VIETNAM AND SOUTHERN LAOS.

3. LOCATION:

THE RIVER CROSSINGS ARE LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 1.4 NM NORTHWEST
OF SEPONE, NEAR THE CONFLUENCE OF THE SE BANG HIENG AND SE PONE
(RIVERS).

4. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS A POSSIBLE FERRY
CROSSING JUST NORTH OF THE DESTROYED SEPONE HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE
SE BANG HIENG [REDACTED] ONE INACTIVE RIVER CROSSING IS
LOCATED JUST NORTH OF THE POSSIBLE FERRY CROSSING, AND ONE INACTIVE
RIVER CROSSING IS NOTED SOUTH OF THE SEPONE HIGHWAY BRIDGE.

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[REDACTED] REVEALS FOUR ACTIVE RIVER
CROSSINGS ON THE SE BANG HIENG. THE NORTHERNMOST CROSSING, WHICH
WAS INACTIVE ON THE PHOTOGRAPHY [REDACTED] HAS BEEN

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25X1

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PAGE 2

REACTIVATED. THE POSSIBLE FERRY CROSSING PREVIOUSLY NOTED IS STILL ACTIVE. THE RIVER CROSSING LOCATED SOUTH OF THE HIGHWAY BRIDGE, ALSO NOTED ON [REDACTED] PHOTOGRAPHY AS AN INACTIVE RIVER CROSSING, HAS BEEN REACTIVATED. A NEW RIVER CROSSING HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED NEAR THE CONFLUENCE OF THE SE PONE AND SE BANG HIENG. (FERRIES ARE PROBABLY UTILIZED AT THE RIVER CROSSINGS, BUT NO FERRIES ARE OBSERVED IN THE AREA.)

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ALSO NOTED ARE NEW BY-PASS ROADS CONSTRUCTED FROM ROUTE 9 TO THE RIVER CROSSINGS. GROUND SCARRING INDICATES THAT CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT WAS USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BY-PASS ROADS AND LANDING POINTS, ALTHOUGH NO EQUIPMENT IS OBSERVED IN THE AREA. NEW TRENCHES HAVE BEEN DUG ON BOTH SIDES OF THE SE BANG HIENG, AND NUMEROUS BOMB CRATERS ARE OBSERVED IN THE AREA.

[REDACTED] REVEALS THAT THE NORTHERN-MOST RIVER CROSSING IS NOW A RIVER FORD. ADDITIONAL TRENCHES HAVE BEEN DUG SINCE [REDACTED]

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